

BIG SANDY NEWS.

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

VOLUME XXIII NUMBER 23

LOUISA, LAWRENCE COUNTY, KENTUCKY, FEB. 14, 1908.

M. F. CONLEY, Publisher

MURDER

Charge For Engineer.

Joe Banks Killed By Locomotive at Prestonsburg and Engineer Is Locked Up.

Joe Banks, aged 32, was killed by a C. & O. freight train at Prestonsburg last Saturday afternoon. A train was on the main track at the depot when the local freight arrived. The local freight went in on the siding at rather slow speed. Mr. Banks was walking alongside the track in the same direction in which the train was moving, and when the engine was only a short distance behind him he stepped upon the track. The engineer Wm. Arttrip, applied the brakes and reversed the engine, but could not stop the train in time to save Mr. Banks. The man was struck by the locomotive, two ribs were broken and an ear cut off. He died about three hours afterward. Mr. Banks lived just above the mouth of Abbott, near the scene of the accident. The news of his injury soon brought together a large crowd, among the number being several relatives of the unfortunate man. Murmurs against the engineer were started and grew until some of the men were almost in a frenzy. Pistols were drawn and the engineer was surrounded by the angry men and it began to look like they would do him violence. The sheriff arrived on the scene and placed Mr. Arttrip under arrest, taking him across the river to Prestonsburg. Here a warrant was sworn out on the charge of manslaughter and Arttrip was placed in jail. The charge was changed to murder after Mr. Banks died. Bond would have been provided for Arttrip, but it was thought safer for him to remain in jail until the feeling against him subsided. Arttrip had an examining trial on Monday and was held to answer to the grand jury. Bail was fixed at \$1,000 and bond was promptly furnished. This is a very unusual case. It is not often that an engineer is held for murder for accidents of this kind, and there seems to be no bad features in the case. From the reports received it was simply an unavoidable accident. Mr. Banks leaves a wife and some grown sons and daughters. He was one of the pioneers of that section.

A Colored Row.

Frank Boler, colored, a team driver for the Big Sandy Milling Company, was walking leisurely up Main street a few evenings ago. When near the Baptist church Frank was surprised and severely shocked by a heavy blow landing on the back of his neck. He immediately concluded that he was fatally shot, and started on a dead run up the street yelling "murder!" at every jump, in the most distressing tone imaginable. He landed at John Pickett's house. The entire neighborhood was aroused and it was some time before the facts could be obtained. It developed that Elder and Anthony Clark, also colored, had waylaid Frank and struck him with a club. They were arrested and tried and bound over to the grand jury upon a felony charge.

Two Children Burned.

Two children of Mrs. Carter, aged eight months and three years, had a narrow escape from a horrible death at their home in Louisa Tuesday evening. The older child found a bottle of gunpowder and threw it into an open fireplace. The explosion that followed burned his face so badly that his eyes were closed until yesterday and it was feared he would be blind. Dr. Marcum the attending physician, says the injuries are not dangerous and that the child will fully recover unless pneumonia should develop. The younger child was severely shocked, but not otherwise injured. Senator M. G. Watson has been quite sick at Frankfort. He has been confined to his room for two weeks, but is now better.

Mrs. Beer Entertains.

Among the delightful festivities among the week-end events was the function given Saturday evening by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Beer, at their beautiful new residence, 2437 East Ocean avenue. About sixty guests were received in the elegant new home and an atmosphere of charming sociability prevailed tinged with the delightful southern spirit. The house has been decorated with bloom, roses being used in the decorations. The walls of the home are hung with beautiful paintings from the brush of Mrs. Beer. The charming arrangement of rooms with the spacious dining room, broad staircase, and parlors, are particularly adapted to entertaining. Conviviality of a charming sort marked the occasion and among the enjoyable musical features was a duet by Mrs. H. H. Haas, of Highland Park, and Mr. Bickford. Later pineapple ice, cake, salted almonds, stuffed dates and marshmallows were served.—Long Beach, (Cal.) Press.

WITHOUT BAIL.

Beech Hargis Held For Killing His Father, Judge Hargis.

On page seven appears an account of Jackson's last tragedy, the killing of Judge James Hargis by his only son. Young Hargis was taken into court Monday for an examining trial, but his attorney, Judge D. B. Redwine, waived examination and the Court held the prisoner without bail. The grand jury will meet next Monday. The burial of Judge Hargis was attended by a large crowd. The funeral was preached by a special friend, one of the old "Regular Baptists." Beech Hargis was taken from the jail to his home by a strong guard before the casket was closed and allowed to view his father's body. He sobbed a few times and asked to be taken back to jail. When in Louisville about two weeks before his death Judge Hargis was in a wholesale undertaking establishment. He called the attention of a clerk to a \$1500 casket and said he wanted to be buried in that kind of a casket when he died. He told his book-keeper about it and after his death Mrs. Hargis telegraphed for the casket selected.

CAPTURED

Horace Hensley Brought Back to Lawrence County.

Sheriff R. A. Stone went to Hunting ton Saturday with a requisition and brought Horace Hensley to Louisa and placed him in jail to answer an indictment. On Monday he was released on \$1,000 bond furnished by Sam Shepard. More than a year ago Hensley and James Kitchen had a shooting scrape in the western part of the county. Kitchen and a woman were wounded and Hensley lost an eye. Hensley left the State and was only recently located. He was arrested, but refused to return without a requisition.

John Baker Killed.

John Baker, N. & W. fireman, well-known in this city was killed Monday night near Dingess. It is not known definitely how he met with his death, but it is supposed he lost his balance while standing on the gang-way throwing coal in the fire-box. The train was crossing a bridge at the time and he fell about thirty feet into the stream below. The train went half a mile before the engineer missed him. The train entered a siding near Canterbury and several of the men on board went back to look for the body which was found in a mangled condition. Baker was still alive when they reached him and was carried on to Dingess where he received medical aid. He was then taken to the hospital at Portsmouth, where he died early Wednesday morning. Baker was one of the oldest firemen now in the N. & W. service and was very popular with the railroad men.—Mingo Republican.

REVERSED

By Court of Appeals.

Case Of Bonding Company Against Lawrence County, Involving \$2700.

The Court of Appeals has reversed the case of the Etna Indemnity Company against Lawrence County. This is the suit brought to compel Lawrence County to give Ex-Sheriff Jesse Cardle and bondsmen credit in the settlement for about \$2700 worth of county claims that he had taken on tax collections. The officials refused to allow this credit and the Lawrence Circuit Court sustained them. The Court of Appeals now reverses the case. The attorneys for the indemnity company say that this company will now complete its settlement on the bond. It will owe the county about \$1500 on 1895 taxes after getting credit for the claims in controversy.

A Valentine Party.

Mrs. J. J. Johnson entertained 20 ladies Wednesday afternoon at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Carey. The decorations, favors, tally cards, etc., were all suggestive of St. Valentine's day. Flinch was the chief pastime employed. The refreshments served were of the most delicious kinds. It was an elegant affair all the way through and the guests express themselves as having most thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

LAST CALL

Has Come to a Number of Our Citizens This Week.

George Simpson, age 80, died Wednesday after an illness of only a short time. He was in Louisa only about two weeks previous to his death. The body was brought to this place and taken to the Isaac burial ground for interment. He has many relatives in this vicinity. George Simpson was born in Giles county, Va., and came to this county in the early '40s. He was a noted hunter in his younger days.

Mrs. Jennie Muske died a few days ago at Walbridge, of consumption. She leaves a husband and one daughter, Mrs. Millard Webb.

The wife of Eric Stone died at the home of her sister, Mrs. Henry Young, in Louisa Tuesday night. She had been in poor health for some time. A husband and two children survive her. The body was taken to Cherokee for interment in the Thompson burial grounds. Mr. Stone is a well known sawmill man.

Philip Bryington, brother of Prof. W. M. Bryington died of consumption near Buchanan last Saturday evening.

Miss Dollie Harris died of consumption in Fort Gay on the 8th. A more extended notice appears elsewhere.

Mrs. Pauley died very suddenly a few days ago in lower Louisa. She had done a day's washing and was in apparently good health when she retired for the night. Death came to her during the night. She had come to Louisa only a short time previous to make her home with her daughter, Mrs. Clevenger. The body was taken to the old home place in the country for burial.

Jack Hickman, colored, died Wednesday night. He had been sick for a few weeks.

No More Smallpox.

Luna Holbrook has entirely recovered from smallpox and has been discharged by the health officer. No other cases developed and the trouble is all over. The house has been thoroughly disinfected. By getting the case under control in time and thoroughly vaccinating the other members of the family the disease was confined to one case.

REEL HATFIELD

Bound and Left to Die.

Almost Frozen to Death and May Lose Feet and One Arm.

George Hatfield, a merchant living at Flat Gap, was here Tuesday with his brother, Reel Hatfield, a youth of about 20 years of age, whom he had brought from Naugatuck, W. Va. The young man is a deaf mute and was in a very bad condition physically. His feet were so badly frozen that he could not walk, and it is feared they may have to be amputated. His hands, arms and ears were also in the same condition. It is one of the most pitiable cases imaginable, and the criminals who are responsible for it deserve the severest punishment. Hatfield was found by hunters in the woods near Naugatuck in an almost lifeless condition. His hands and feet were tied and he was unconscious. It is thought that he had been at that spot for about two days. It is said the boy was made to wade the river before being tied.

IMPORTANT

Case Placed in Hands of Attorney Luther M. Walter.

The following from the Cincinnati Enquirer will interest friends of Luther M. Walter, a native of this county who has come to the front in Washington, as Big Sandy boys are in the habit of doing: "There will be quite a fight made in the Appellate Court, beginning today, over the legality of the Federal safety appliance act, and the Interstate Commerce Commission will be represented by Attorney Luther M. Walter, of Washington, D. C., although the Government is not personally involved in the action. The case is that of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad Company vs. E. M. Delk. The latter was a switchman in the employ of the road, and was injured while attempting to couple cars by being compelled to go between the cars in order to perform the work though they were not equipped with safety brakes according to law. Delk secured a verdict in the Court below, and the road takes the appeal. It seems to be so intent on making a fight against the construction of the safety appliance act, and therefore the Interstate Commerce Commission wants to be represented in the matter in order to uphold the statute."

Circuit Court.

One of the longest terms of the Circuit court ever held here closed last Friday. It lacked only one day of four weeks. Everybody is well pleased with the progress made toward cleaning up the docket. Judge Hannah opened court in Elliott county Monday.

Ben Miller, who sued the C. & O. railroad for \$2,000 for allowing him to ride to Georges creek instead of putting him off at Kise station, two miles this side, was given judgment for \$50. This was the last jury case tried.

J. B. Clayton, of Louisa, is now making the run from Pikeville to Ashland and return daily to weigh the mails carried by these trains. He and the other weigher will alternate weekly on that run and the one leaving Ashland mornings and returning evenings. The work will continue for 105 days. The object of this is to fix the compensation for the railroads for carrying the mails.

Saw Lincoln Killed.

Word has been received of the sudden death at his home near Ironton, Ohio, of the death of Andrew Jackson Jones, aged 71 years, at one time a wealthy mine owner and horticulturist. Mr. Jones was a veteran of the civil war, having served with distinction in the second Virginia Artillery, attaining the rank of Captain. He was at the time of Lincoln's assassination, present in Ford's Theater when Booth fired the fatal shot. At that time he was a Sergeant of Artillery on special duty as a guard to the President. For conspicuous bravery on that occasion he was promoted to a Captaincy.

After the war Mr. Jones returned to Lawrence county and amassed a fortune in mining. Later he retired and devoted his energies to horticulture.

Captain Jones is survived by four children—Mrs. Chas. Hammond, John Q. A. Jones, Miss Rose Jones and Mrs. Jos. Joseph Gillen, of Ironton, Ohio.

IN DEFENSE

Of Rev. South G. Preston One of His Creditors Makes a Statement.

Recently we copied an account of the financial transactions of the Rev. South G. Preston. In a letter to the West Virginian, copied in the Methodist Advocate, John H. Hardisty makes the following explanation: "The fact in the case which has been so largely heralded throughout the state, are as follows: Last summer Rev. Preston borrowed from Mrs. Lida Sturm \$1,200.00 for \$200 of which I went security. The other \$1,000 was loaned him on his own note. This money was procured for the purpose of investing in property and business in Mt. Lake, and was so used. "Later Mr. Preston borrowed from the first National Bank of Fairmont, the sum of \$600, with Mr. James Lawler and myself as security. This note is not due until Feb. 17. The proceeds of this note were used in payment for a property bought at Mt. Lake for \$1,600. "The property bought by Mr. Preston for \$1,000 I bought from him at \$1,200, paying Mrs. Sturm by note, \$500 to be a credit on the Preston note of \$1,000, leaving only \$400 due her, of which she is to receive the rent of one of the Mt. Lake houses, amounting to \$140. "The remaining \$400 due Preston is to be paid on purchase price of property at Mt. Lake, when due. "I have known of Mr. Preston's movements and had correspondence with him since he went to New York, he having told his friends he was going there to try to recover the losses sustained by a bad season and a disastrous fire in Mt. Lake which destroyed his stock of goods."

WEST POINT.

Judge John F. Hager's Son Passes Examination And Will Enter Famous School.

Richard Hager, son of Judge Jno. F. Hager, of Ashland, received a telegram announcing that he had been successful in taking the examination for admission to West Point, the U. S. Military Academy, and Mr. Hager is receiving the hearty congratulations of his many friends. Mr. Hager spent two years in Virginia Military Institute, and last fall took a preparatory course in a leading New York state military school. Two weeks ago he went to Columbus and took the required examination, and the news that he had successfully passed this examination was embodied in the telegram received. He expects to enter West Point on March 1st.—Independent.

Early Love in the Mountains.

The County clerk issued the following license this week: George Bowler, age 16 to Miss Martha Napier age 14; Will Sizemore, age 19 to Mittie Sizemore age 15; Ellisha Asher age 18 to Dollie Asher age 20; Benjamin Stewart, age 18 to Cora Collier age 14.—Hyden Thousand Sticks.

DEATHS

From Burning Clothing.

Women Lose Their Lives In The Most Horrible Manner.

Lida Preston, 15, burned all over and will die.

Mrs. Elliott Preston, horribly burned on breast and stomach, probably fatally.

Mrs. John Preston badly burned about hands and arms.

John Preston lives on the hill in the rear of A. Yost's residence in the Chaffee suburb of Catlettsburg. With him live his wife, who two days ago gave birth to a baby; his son-in-law, Elliott Preston and wife, and Lida Preston, a 15 year old daughter.

Mr. Preston and his son-in-law left home early and went out to their work.

About 10 o'clock while Lida was working about the kitchen stove her clothing took fire and in an instant she was enveloped from head to foot in the flames. Her screams brought the married sister hurrying to her, but in trying to put out the fire her clothing also caught, and the two were swiftly burning to death. Lida rushed into the yard and ran to the home of Mrs. Louis Mead, perhaps 50 yards distant, but on reaching the yard she had inhaled so much flame that she dropped to the ground and writhed in agony while her clothing piece by piece dropped from her body.

Mrs. John Preston then springing from bed, where she lay with her two days old babe, came to the rescue of her daughters. She drew water from the cistern and poured it on the prostrate forms, one in the kitchen doorway, the other in the neighbor's yard, until she quenched the fire and then fell fainting and was carried to her bed by neighbors who had by this time arrived.

The charred body of Lida, perfectly nude, and the flesh dropping from some of her bones, was carried to the house, and Dr. W. W. Merton hurriedly summoned. The doctor did all possible for the distressed family, but said there was absolutely no hope for the recovery of the younger girl, and that without extraordinary care in the case of Mrs. Elliott Preston, she would die also.

Mrs. John Preston, besides the terrible shock sustained in her delicate condition is badly burned about the hands and arms.—Tribune.

Mrs. Lizzie Scott, age 55, of Polk, a suburb of Ashland, is at the point of death from a similar accident. Her apron caught fire from a kitchen stove and nearly all her clothing was burned off before the flames could be extinguished.

LATER—The woman died Wednesday.

ANOTHER CASE.

Sarah Payne, of Portsmouth, a young woman of perhaps 24 years, was literally roasted alive Friday afternoon in a house in Huntington, conducted by Jennie Wylie and Eva Thompson.

The girl had just finished dressing and was wearing a flimsy blue dress on the order of the kimono. She entered a front room of the house and was standing in front of a small gas stove, turned rather high. The flames connected with her dress and in a flash were leaping into the air above her head. She started to tear the burning garment from her, but being unable to do so, rushed screaming to the bath room and turned the water on and leaped into the bath tub. Seeing this effort futile, and suffering death a thousand times, she sprang from the tub and dashed into the hall where the Wylie woman began beating at the fire with a red portier. The suffering victim stood with her hands raised above her head and burned to a crisp, the flames mounting above her head and burning her hair almost completely off. After fighting desperately for several minutes with the aid of those about her, the flames were finally extinguished, but not until after they had done their deadly work, burning the unfortunate girl's hands to a crisp, burning one ear entirely off, and charring the skin so terribly that it fell from the body from the knees to the edge of the hair.